TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 13, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended June 8 totaled an estimated 18.2 billion ton-miles, 4.8 percent below the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 23 weeks of 1985 was an estimated 394.8 billion ton-miles, down 3.8 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended June 8 totaled 392,877, down 6.3 percent from last year, but 13.2 percent higher than the preceding holiday week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 11.7 percent in the East, 4.0 percent in the South and 3.7 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 16 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment increased by 1,766 cars (8.6 percent) and crushed stone, gravel and sand showed a gain of 1,256 cars (9.7 percent). Eighteen of 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding holiday week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the holiday week ended June 1 totaled 76,168 trailers and/or containers, 1.0 percent below the corresponding week of 1984.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 22 weeks of the year was 1,847,009 trailers and/or containers, down 3.7 percent from 1984.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 6/8/85:

	Loadings in Week ended June 8, 1985		Change from Corresponding Week 1984			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	22,273	D	1,803	7.5	I	2,984	15.5
Other farm products	4,209	I	220	5.5	I	551	15.1
Metallic ores	18,204	D	3,746	17.1	I	2,244	14.1
Coal	118,909	D	10,701	8.3	I	16,534	16.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	14,266	I	1,256	9.7	I	2,560	21.9
Nonmetallic minerals	11,998	D	467	3.7	I	1,053	9.6
Grain mill products	10,305	D	395	3.7	I	1,439	16.2
Food and kindred products	10,943	D	64	0.6	I	1,055	10.7
Primary forest products	11,914	D	2,432	17.0	I	1,263	11.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,545	I	198	2.7	I	453	6.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,761	D	1,597	10.4	D	216	1.5
Chemicals and allied products	23,265	D	517	2.2	I	2,048	9.7
Petroleum products	4,630	D	99	2.1	I	580	14.3
Stone, clay and glass products	11,550	D	83	0.7	I	1,203	11.6
Coke	4,631	D	1,319	22.2	D	22	0.5
Metals and products	9,613	I	109	1.1	D	22	0.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,261	I	1,766	8.6	I	3,732	20.1
Waste and scrap materials	8,241	D	1,640	16.6	I	834	11.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,142	D	1,408	18.6	I	858	16.2
All other carloads	58,075	D	3,414	5.6	I	6,523	12.7
LCL traffic	142	D	76	34.9	I	8	6.0
Total Cars Loaded	392,877	D	26,212	6.3	I	45,662	13.2
Corresponding week of 1984	419,089						

	1985	1984	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (23 weeks)	8,578,556	9,063,257	D 5.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
22 Weeks ended June 1	376.6	391.5	D 3.8
Week ended June 8	18.2	19.1	D 4.8
23 weeks cumulative	394.8	410.6	D 3.8

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